

ETON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health.
for the year 1947.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the Annual Report for the year 1947.

The statistics indicate that the general health of the district has been well maintained and it is satisfactory to record that no outbreaks of serious infectious disease occurred. The Death Rate for the year was 9.3 per 1,000 compared with the national figure of 12. The Birth Rate showed a slight rise at 16.6 per 1,000 but is still below the national rate of 20.5 per 1,000.

SECTION A.

Population (Registrar General's Estimate Mid 1947) 4,513

Vital Statistics.

Live Births.

Total	55	Male	25	Female	30
Legitimate	53	"	24	"	29
Illegitimate	2	"	1	"	1

Birth rate per 1,000 population (excluding boys at Eton College) 16.6
National rate..... 20.5

Deaths.

Total	42	Male	20	Female	22
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Death rate per 1,000 population.....	9.3
National rate.....	12

Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births.....	nil
National rate.....	1.17

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.

Total	1	Male	nil	Female	1
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Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births.....	18.2
National rate.....	41.0

Deaths from Measles.....	nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough.....	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).....	nil

Causes of Death.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	-	2
Pleurisy and Influenza	-	1	1
Cancer	-	5	5
Heart Disease	9	9	18
Cerebral Haemorrhage	2	2	4
Death due to Drowning	1	1	2
Pneumonia	4	6	10
Congenital Malformations	-	1	1
Streptococcal Septicaemia	1	-	1
Leukaemia	-	1	1

SECTION B.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply. Water is supplied throughout the District by the Windsor Corporation Waterworks, a constant supply of good wholesome water being given. The undertakers subject the untreated and treated water to regular monthly analysis, and during the year all were found to be of a satisfactory standard. One sample was also taken for chemical analysis and was found to be satisfactory.

Drainage and Sewerage. The sewers have been extended to provide facilities for a further 150 houses in Tilson Field.

The method of disposal is by broad irrigation on the Council's Sewerage Farm at Eton Wick. During the year, negotiations have been proceeding for the joint disposal of sewerage with the Slough Corporation. These have proceeded to the point where agreement on all points has been reached between the two Authorities and the proposals are now before the Ministry of Health for their approval.

Only 12 properties remain to be connected to the public sewers. This excludes the 17 properties for which no public sewer facilities are available.

The cesspools are emptied frequently, the contents of which are disposed of at the Sewage Farm.

The sewers were surcharged for 3 weeks during the March flooding. The farm was above flood level. Pumping continued for 22 hours per day and no epidemic was experienced.

Salvage. Owing to the difficulty of collection limited salvage has been undertaken. The following material has been salvaged during the year:-

	Tons	Cwts.	£	s	d
Paper	20		62	8	0
Bottles and Jars	10		20	0	0
Bones		4	1	8	0

In addition, private pig details have carried out a thorough collection of kitchen waste and approximately 300 pigs are fed from this source.

The drop in paper salvage by the Council is counterbalanced by the fact that many of the previous sources of supply now dispose of the paper direct to the merchants.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Number of Council Houses infested	3
Number of other houses infested	6
Number of Council Houses disinfested	...3
Number of other houses disinfested	6

Miscellaneous Controlled Premises.

<u>Description</u>	<u>No. in District</u>	<u>No. Registered</u>	<u>No. of Inspections made</u>
Bakehouses	2	2	2
Slaughterhouses	1	1	not used
Cowkeepers	7	7)	
Dairies (including Milk Retailers)	15	15)	30

Out-Workers. The latest list of out-workers contains 18 persons engaged with 4 firms on tailoring work and 11 persons engaged with 1 firm on box making.

Disinfection. Rooms in 5 houses were disinfected after cases of infectious disease.

Houses. 6 houses were built in the area during the year, and 16 were under construction at 31st March, 1947. Three premises were requisitioned and house four families. Overcrowding due to war conditions is still prevalent.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply. There were 6 supplementary Milk Licences issued under the Milk and Dairies (Special Designations) Order, 1936/38.

The milk from the Council's farm continued to be of good quality. The cowsheds have been regularly inspected and found to be kept in a generally satisfactory condition.

The Council discontinued its dairy herd on the 25th March, 1947.

Meat and other foods. 28 stones of fish, 99 lbs. of meat, 68 lbs. tinned meat, 18 lbs. tinned fish, 93 lbs. cheese, 8 lbs. sausages and 73 tins of tinned foods have been condemned as unfit for human consumption.

Ice Cream and preserved Foods. 21 shops have registered for the sale or manufacture of ice cream and preserved foods under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Details of Sanitary Inspection.

<u>Drainage.</u>		<u>Housing.</u>	
New drainage work	8	Dampness	15
Existing drainage	5	Defective ceilings	3
Interviews with owners		Defective range	6
re drains	2	Defective Well	-
Blocked sewers	4		
Defective drains	2		
Deposits of sewage	-		
<u>Cowsheds and Dairies</u>		<u>Miscellaneous</u>	
Advice to owner	1	Inspection of fairs	2
Premises not being used	nil	Inspection of Bake-	
Dirty floors	2	houses	3
Limewashing required	7	Water analyses	-
Roof dirty	2	Nuisance of pests	-
		Nuisance of bugs	9

Rodent Control.

During the year, the Council appointed a Rodent Operator. A full survey of the town has been carried out including a 10% test on the sewers. All cases of infestation have been treated with satisfaction.

Housing.

Eleven licences have been issued to private enterprise for new houses, 9 have been completed and occupied. Two old houses

have been repaired and re-occupied and four conversions carried out providing additional housing accommodation.

A licence was granted to one house for occupation for a further 12 months.

SECTION C.

Notifiable Diseases during 1946. (Other than Tuberculosis)

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Cases</u> <u>Notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted</u> <u>to Eton Joint</u> <u>Isolation Hospital</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
KLB Carrier	2	2	-
Diphtheria	2	2	-
Scarlet Fever	3	1	-
Whooping Cough	6	1 (pneumonia &- whooping cough)	-
Measles	42	1	-
Anterior Poliomyelitis	2	1	-

Infectious Disease. The Infectious Disease returns show that there was no outbreak of serious disease and no cases of smallpox, typhoid, dysentery or cerebro spinal fever were recorded.

Diphtheria. Two cases of diphtheria were notified, one at Eton Collage and one at Eton Wick. Both were traced as being an aftermath of the minor epidemic which occurred in 1946. No further cases were recorded after these had been dealt with.

Scarlet Fever. Three cases of scarlet fever occurred in children in Eton but were of the prevailing mild type and no deaths resulted.

Poliomyelitis. Two cases of poliomyelitis were recorded, one an infant at Eton College and one an adult at Eton Wick. In view of the nation-wide epidemic of poliomyelitis in 1947, this can be regarded as satisfactory.

Measles. In the early months of the year there was a minor epidemic of measles affecting chiefly Eton Wick, where 36 cases were notified while Eton showed only 6 cases.

Whooping Cough. Only 6 cases were notified during the year, 3 in Eton and 3 in Eton Wick.

Tuberculosis. The Tuberculosis Returns showed that 3 cases were notified, one non-pulmonary in an infant, one pulmonary in an elderly man and one pulmonary in a young adult female. There were two deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

James L. Hill.

Medical Officer of Health.